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Editorial

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EDITORIAL

Letter from the Editor, Clinical Professor and Interim Associate Dean Dr. Patricia L. Darbshire



Greetings to our *Purdue Journal of Service-Learning and International Engagement* (PJSL) readership! PJSL provides a mentored writing opportunity for current and former Purdue students to share their service-learning, civic engagement, and global learning experiences through

their scholarly work. It has been another productive year with many exciting enhancements to the journal, resulting in improved manuscript rigor and an ever-increasing submission rate. A primary initiative this year was to expand our pool of student authors from untapped disciplines. In this issue, we highlight stories ranging from agriculture, liberal arts, and engineering, among many others.

Student authors choose from four submission types. This is the third year for our newest submission type called research with reflection. Faculty have taken full advantage of working in collaboration with their students to produce coauthored, peer-reviewed articles with meaningful outcomes and deep reflection. Likewise, the profile interview is a student-authored article that highlights faculty members, instructors, staff, and other mentors who teach service-learning courses or provide other community-based learning opportunities for our students. We salute those of you who generously give your time and energy to provide meaningful community-based experiences to our students. If you provide these types of opportunities for our students and are not yet involved with the journal, we call on you to inspire and encourage your students to write about their community-based experiences. We also welcome you as a writing mentor or reviewer. No matter the role, your service will contribute to the development of our students' academic and interpersonal knowledge and skills.

I would like to call attention to The JoAnn Miller Exemplary Community Partner Award. JoAnn was the associate dean of engagement and the head of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. She worked passionately to further engagement between the community and Purdue students, faculty, and staff. The award recognizes a local community agency for significant contributions to student development and learning through the provision of volunteer and educational opportunities. Nominees must be not-for-profit organizations, schools, or units of local government that create and sustain engaging opportunities for students while providing meaningful service to the community. If you know of a deserving community partner, please nominate them for this annual award by contacting Harry Brown at 765-496-2453.

Lastly, I have many people to thank for their contributions to the journal this year, including Steve Abel and Lindsey Payne in the Office of Engagement, Purdue University Press, our editorial board, writing mentors, and article reviewers, as well as our incredibly supportive community partners. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Graduate Student Journal Coordinator Horane Holgate, who is completing his PhD in educational psychology. Horane worked diligently to make the journal a success and he is missed. We welcome the new journal coordinator, Tom Darbshire. Tom has four years of corporate work experience and brings strong marketing and organizational skills to the journal; his contributions are evident. Finally, last year we welcomed a new student member to our editorial board, Quynh Nguyen. Her dedication to the journal resulted in the creation of a new position: Student Assistant to the Editor.

A published article in PJSL is a powerful way to demonstrate the impact that our students and their mentors make every day in our local and global communities. As always, the PJSL Editorial Board wishes everyone a successful year. Boiler UP!